

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGUI 01732 131005Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
PC-01 AID-05 DHA-02 SCA-01 SCS-03 /098 W
-----021014 131011Z /21

O 130845Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9094
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE IMMEDIATE
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 380

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 1732

CARACAS FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, CT, UK
SUBJ: GOLDSMITH DETENTION

REF: BANGUI 1731, PARIS 23490, USUN 2591

1. WE ARE DELIGHTED AT BOKASSA'S DECISION TO RELEASE GOLDSMITH
AND WILL ENDEAVOR TO CONFIRM IT. FIRST PLANE ON WHICH GOLDSMITH
CAN DEPART IS RK56 WHICH LEAVES BANGUI 2325 SUNDAY AND ARRIVES
IN PARIS 0930 MONDAY MORNING.

2. IT IS EVIDENT THAT MRS. GOLDSMITH'S ELOQUENT APPEAL WAS THE
DECISIVE FACTOR. IT CAME AT EXACTLY THE RIGHT MOMENT WHEN OTHER
INFLUENCES WERE COMING TO BEAR, FROM GABON, IVORY COAST AND AS
A RESULT OF OUR OWN EFFORTS WITH SENIOR MINISTERS HERE.

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3. WE THINK IT WOULD BE HIGHLY APPROPRIATE FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG
TO SEND A MESSAGE OF THANKS TO BOTH EMPEROR BOKASSA AND AMBASSADOR
BANDIO ONCE GOLDSMITH IS ACTUALLY RELEASED. WE SHARE USUN'S
HOPE THAT PRESS COVERAGE WILL BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM.

4. MENTION OF DOCUMENTS BELONGING TO US EMBASSY PRESUMABLY REFER
TO SUCH ITEMS AS ECONOMIC TRENDS REPORT AND BACKGROUND NOTES WHICH

WE GAVE TO JOURNALISTS. SOME OF GOLDSMITH'S NOTES MAY ALSO CONTAIN SUMMARIES OF BRIEFINGS BY EMBOFFS, INCLUDING AMBASSADOR. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW BOKASSA MAY CHOOSE TO MAKE USE OF THIS INFORMATION OR WHETHER HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT WILL NOW BE MORE ALOOF IN DEALING WITH THE EMBASSY. GIVEN THE VARIOUS SIGNS WE HAVE RECEIVED OVER THE LAST WEEK OF GOCAE'S DESIRE TO CONTINUE EFFECTIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS (MEETING WITH PCVS, POSITIVE RESPONSE TO CONSULAR CONVENTION, SIGNING OF TWO SMALL SELF-HELP PROJECTS, AUTHORIZATION FOR GODIAN IVP) WE THINK THAT RELATIONS WILL NOW BEGIN TO RETURN TO NORMAL, ALTHOUGH AN ELEMENT OF MORE ENDURING WARINESS ON HIS SIDE AS ON OURS MAY REMAIN.

5. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO BE IN A POSITION TO RESPOND QUICKLY SHOULD THE CAE FORMALLY SHOW INTEREST IN A CONSULAR CONVENTION -- PARTICULARLY IF THE CAE SOMEHOW CONFUSES IT WITH A "NON-ESPIONAGE" AGREEMENT SUCH AS BOKASSA MENTIONED IN HIS FIRST MESSAGE TO MRS. GOLDSMITH. REQUEST DEPARTMENT POUCH MODEL TEXT SOONEST.
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